

Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we commend and convey best wishes to the Davis High School Advanced Treble and Madrigal Choirs, and send our greetings and congratulations to all those involved in the 60th Diamond Anniversary Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod.

DECLARING THAT THE UNITED STATES WILL PREVAIL IN THE GLOBAL WAR ON TERROR

SPEECH OF

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to House Resolution 861.

While I reaffirm my commitment to do everything possible to support the men and women serving our country in Iraq, I will not dishonor them by supporting this sham resolution.

This resolution is no more than a deceitful effort by the Republican leadership to justify an ill conceived war—a war based on faulty and manipulated intelligence and years of reckless and costly decisions.

These decisions have increased threats to our national security and drained our treasury of valuable resources needed for critical programs such as education, healthcare, research and job training.

The reality, Mr. Speaker, is that the President has lost support for this war as America has become increasingly aware of the Administration's deception and lack of a clear plan for success. A plan such as the one outlined in Congressman MURTHA's resolution would protect our troops and bring them home as safely and as quickly possible.

The resolution before this House is nothing more than a ploy to regain support and political advantage by once again blurring the lines between the devastating 9/11 attacks and the ongoing war in Iraq. This connection has repeatedly been discredited.

In the aftermath of 9/11, the United States justifiably invaded Afghanistan in pursuit of Osama Bin Laden, who is the man we know was responsible for the 9/11 attacks.

U.S. intelligence sources tell us we were close to capturing him, but then the President redirected our troops and resources to invade Iraq.

As a consequence of the President's decision, the terrorist responsible for the deaths of thousands of Americans is still free, Iraq has in fact become a breeding ground for terrorists, and the invasion has inflamed hatred towards our country and has jeopardized our ability to quickly form a strong international coalition to fight terrorism abroad and protect us at home.

If the Republican leadership were sincere about honoring our troops, they would have provided them with the full equipment they are still lacking, and they would not for example, have passed a budget with a \$6 billion cut to Veterans Healthcare, or rejected Democratic amendments to increase badly needed funding in the Military Quality of Life appropriations bill.

Mr. Speaker, sending our troops into Iraq ill equipped, with no plan for success, and no exit strategy was a shameful mistake.

For the Republican leadership to play politics with this resolution and mask true support for our troops with mere words and rhetoric is disgraceful.

I, like every American, support our troops and honor their patriotism.

Their heroism and resolve to fight for our country, despite the deplorable circumstance under which they were sent to Iraq, heightens my pride in their service and strengthens my resolve to bring them home quickly and safely.

I will not dishonor them by supporting this Republican charade.

H.R. 4939

HON. JUANITA MILLENDER-McDONALD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2006

Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD. Mr. Speaker, I wish to commend the Chairman and Ranking Member for their support of my request to include \$228 million in funding for the C-17 aircraft procurement in H.R. 4939, the Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act for Defense, the Global War on Terror and Hurricane Recovery.

This funding allows for the procurement of seven new aircraft and clearly signifies the Defense Department's growing commitment to the future construction of the C-17 aircraft through fiscal year 2008.

The House and Senate are fervent believers in the C-17, as this plane has exceeded all expectations and is one of the most successful airlift cargo aircrafts of the Defense Department. The C-17 is currently being flown 160 percent more than usual to deliver supplies to war theatres and to conduct humanitarian missions. The C-17 is vital to our national security, and an irreplaceable tool for our country to meet our growing global commitments.

The C-17 is fighting for America, and I have proudly led the fight for the C-17. My work with the Secretary of the Air Force, letters to the Secretary of Defense and working with the Chairmen and Ranking Members of the Appropriations Committees of both the House and Senate have resulted in the appropriations we have had approved. In December, I proudly delivered a letter to the President that had the signatures of 148 House Members and 13 Senators supporting the C-17 program. I am pleased to represent the Boeing Company in my District, and the skilled workforce who calls Southern California their home.

Mr. Speaker, while I am pleased that Congress has done its part for the next fiscal year to provide much-needed C-17's to our troops to fight the War on Terror and to serve humanitarian needs both at home and abroad, I will only intensify my pursuit of further funding. The American Armed Forces deserve to fly with only the best.

TRIBUTE TO SCOTTSBORO POLICE CHIEF KEITH SMITH

HON. ROBERT E. (BUD) CRAMER, JR.

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2006

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Scottsboro Police Chief Keith

Smith, who recently announced his retirement after 35 years of public service.

Chief Smith started his career in law enforcement as a Military Police Officer in the United States Army in 1966. After serving 1 year in Vietnam, he was honorably discharged before joining the Scottsboro Police Department in 1971. He was named the Chief of Police in 1980 and has served in that position ever since.

Mr. Speaker, as Police Chief, he continually modernized and upgraded the department's technologies and methods of crime prevention. Through his leadership, the City of Scottsboro has maintained a low crime rate and has established itself to be a great place to live, work, and raise a family.

I consider it a privilege to have worked with Chief Smith on a variety of issues facing the City of Scottsboro and all of Northeast Alabama. His unique ability to serve the public and work with a number of elected officials over his unprecedented 26 year term is quite remarkable.

Mr. Speaker, Chief Smith is well respected throughout our local community. On Sunday, June 25th, the Scottsboro community will gather to honor and celebrate all of his achievements. I rise today, to join in their celebration and to thank Chief Smith for his many years of dedicated service.

HONORING THE LIFE OF FORMER GUAM GOVERNOR BILL DANIEL

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2006

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Governor Bill Daniel, a former Governor of Guam, who passed away Tuesday, June 20, 2006, at his home in Liberty, TX, at the age of ninety. His legacy has left an indelible imprint on our island and our people. Daniel served as Governor of Guam from 1961 to 1963. He was appointed to this position by President John F. Kennedy. Governor Daniel not only rose to the task, he adopted the island as his second home and implemented changes that continue to benefit our island to this day.

Governor Daniel was a "hands-on" leader. He mounted a massive, island-wide clean-up campaign that included cutting a trail to reach the isolated Talofofo Falls, which continues to serve as one of the island's most beautiful and popular sites for visitors. Before his first 100 days ended, Governor Daniel signed legislation upgrading education by elevating the College of Guam to a four-year institution of higher learning now known as the University of Guam. The University of Guam today is an accredited institution providing quality education to approximately 3,000 students on our island.

He is however best known for removing the security clearance requirement for persons who traveled to or from Guam, including residents. The lifting of this clearance is acknowledged as the single most important act which stimulated Guam's economy.

Governor Daniel was a true visionary whose deep love for our island and our people is manifested in his accomplishments as Governor of Guam. In addition to his many successes, he never wavered in his belief that our